

Appl. No.: 10/707554
Amdt. Dated: 8/25/2004
Reply to Office action of: 06/03/2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the specification, new paragraphs [0014.1] and [0014.2] have been added after paragraph [0014] briefly describing new Figures 7 and 8. Paragraph [0018] has been amended to identify Figure 7 as showing the coil of connected terminals. New paragraph [0018.1] has been added to provide a detailed description of Figure 8 which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the claimed invention.

New Figures 7 and 8 have been introduced to illustrate described and claimed embodiments of the present invention.

Claims 2 – 5, 7 – 9, 11 – 14, and 16 – 18, and new Claims 19 – 20 remain in this application. Claims 1, 6, 10, and 15 have been canceled.

The Examiner has requested copies of the Foreign Applications discussed in the Applicants' Specification. Applicants attached copies of these references for the Examiner's convenience.

The Examiner has objected to typographical errors in Claims 1 and 10. Although Claims 1 and 10 have been canceled, new Claims 19 and 20 incorporate the language of now canceled Claims 1 and 10 and incorporate the corrections suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner has also objected to language in Claim 4. The objected to language has been removed in amended Claim 4. Claim 7 has been canceled obviating the Examiner's objections to grammar in said now canceled claim.

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing the "ribbon...forming a continuous coil-shaped wound band" of Claim 4, "the at least one pin comprises a plurality of pins, the number of which is based on the electrical current load to be carried by the pins" of Claim 4 and "a base...of the...pin" of Claims 1 and 10. By this amendment Applicants have provided a new sheet of drawings comprising Figure 7 showing the "ribbon...forming a continuous coil-shaped wound band" and Figure 8 showing "a plurality of pins". In addition, Claims 1 and 10 have been canceled and new Claims 19 and 20 do not contain the "a base...of the...pin" language. Therefore these objections to the drawings are now moot and their removal is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 – 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner states:

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In regard to Claims 1 and 10, it is not clear which part of the contact body the Applicant implies as “a base...of the...pin”; Specification does not describe and Drawing does not depict “a base”.

In regard to claims 4 and 13, “ribbon...forming a continuous coil-shaped wound band” is not shown in Drawings. Also, this limitation related to method step, particularly for storing and transportation, but the structure of the contact. The method steps will be met during the normal operation of the product described above if needed.

In regard to claims 7 and 16, neither Specification nor Drawings describe or show “the at least **one pin comprises a plurality of pins**”. It is not clear, as disclosed in Specification on page 4, line 5 – 8, if Applicant introduces **a plurality of** separated terminals wherein each or terminals having one pin or **one terminal** having a plurality of mounting pins. (emphasis original)

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Claims 1 and 10 have been canceled and new Claims 19 and 20 do not contain the language forming the basis of rejection. The rejection of Claims 4 and 13 have been obviated by the new sheet of drawings containing Figure 7 clearly illustrating the “ribbon...forming a continuous coil-shaped wound band”. The basis of rejection of Claims 7 and 16 is confusing to the Applicant and clarification is requested. The Claims are directed to “A flat female terminal” clearly describing a single terminal unit. Therefore the following description of pins can only refer to pins located on this single terminal unit. Suggestions for emphasizing this point would be most welcome. Clearly the basis of these rejections are not moot and removal of said rejections is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 4, and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Kraus et al. U.S. 6280253. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Applicant’s amended claims are directed to flat female terminals which may be connected in a ribbon of multiple flat female terminals, all of which have at least two pins for connecting to a circuit board and the exact number of pins being based on the electrical current load to be carried by the pins. The Kraus et al reference does not disclose the use of multiple connection pins based on the electrical current load to be carried. Clearly, when viewed in this light the subject Claims are not anticipated by the Kraus et al. reference. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests this rejection be removed.

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Claims 1 – 3 and 8 – 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Zanolli U.S. 6206735. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Applicant's amended claims are directed to flat female terminals which may be connected in a ribbon of multiple flat female terminals, all of which have at least two pins for connecting to a circuit board and the exact number of pins being based on the electrical current load to be carried by the pins. The Zanolli reference does not disclose the use of multiple connection pins based on the electrical current load to be carried. Clearly, when viewed in this light the subject Claims are not anticipated by the Zanolli reference. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests this rejection be removed.

Claims 10 – 12, 15 and 17 – 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Leibowitz U.S. 4944684. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Applicant's amended claims are directed to flat female terminals which may be connected in a ribbon of multiple flat female terminals, all of which have at least two pins for connecting to a circuit board and the exact number of pins being based on the electrical current load to be carried by the pins. The Leibowitz reference does not disclose the use of multiple connection pins based on the electrical current load to be carried. Clearly, when viewed in this light the subject Claims are not anticipated by the Leibowitz reference. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests this rejection be removed.

Claims 13 – 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leibowitz U.S. 4944684 in view of Kraus et al. U.S. 6280253. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Applicant's amended claims are directed to flat female terminals which may be connected in a ribbon of multiple flat female terminals, all of which have at least two pins for connecting to a circuit board and the exact number of pins being based on the electrical current load to be carried by the pins. Neither the Leibowitz reference nor the Kraus et al reference disclose the use of multiple connection pins based on the electrical current load to be carried. Clearly, when viewed in this light the subject Claims are not disclosed or fairly suggested by the Leibowitz reference, the Kraus et al. reference, or any combination of these references. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests this rejection be removed.

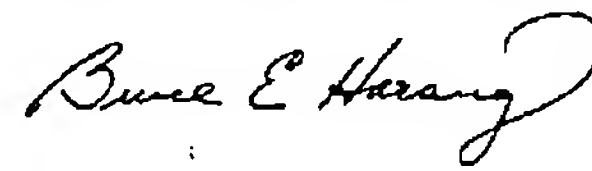
Applicant acknowledges the prior art made of record by the Examiner as considered pertinent but not relied upon as a basis of rejection. Since these references

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have not been used as a basis of rejection Applicant makes no further comment about them.

In view of the remarks herein, and the amendments hereto, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments